

## Message Text

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46

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-12 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 DPW-01 OMB-01 AID-20 SR-02 ORM-03 RSR-01 /144 W  
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R 231039 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8909

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 3268

TEHRAN PASS CHARGE SOBER

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PK, IN, BG

SUBJECT: BHUTTO ON APRIL 17 INDO- BANGLADESH DECLARATION

REF: ( A ) ISLAMABAD 3237; ( B ) KARACHI 0613

1. AT THE PAKISTAN MILITARY ACADEMY PASSING OUT CEREMONIES AT KABUL ON APRIL 21, TWO OCCASIONS AROSE FOR BRIEF PRIVATE EXCHANGES WITH PRESIDENT BHUTTO. IN DISCUSSING THE INDO- BANGLADESH DECLARATION, THE PRESIDENT MADE REFERENCE TO HIS TALKS WITH HIS MILITARY ADVISORS AND WITH THE GOVERNORS. HE SAID HE HAD SEEN GENERAL TIKKA KHAN LATER WHO HAD REPORTED THAT IN FURTHER DISCUSSIONS THE MILITARY HAD REACTED EVEN MORE STRONGLY ON THE SUBJECT OF BANGLADESH WAR CRIMES TRIALS THAN IN BHUTTO' S INITIAL DISCUSSION WITH THEM. I INQUIRED IF THE GOP POSITION MIGHT BE INFLUENCED BY THE RELATIVELY SMALL NUMBER OF PRISONERS EVIDENTLY INTENDED TO BE PUT ON TRIAL. HE REPLIED THAT PAKISTAN  
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COULD NEVER BE EXPECTED TO ACQUIESCE IN ANY TRIALS IN BANGLADESH AND SAID THAT IF THERE WERE ANY TRIALS THESE WOULD HAVE TO BE HELD IN PAKISTAN. HE ADDED THAT OF COURSE BANGLADESH MIGHT CHOOSE TO HOLD TRIALS WITHOUT GOP AGREEMENT; THIS WOULD BE BEYOND PAKISTAN' S CONTROL.

2. AID DIRECTOR WHEELER, WHO WAS PRESENT DURING ABOVE EXCHANGE, ASKED ABOUT BIHARI PROBLEM, AND PRESIDENT ECHOED MFA LINE TO US, I. E., THAT GOP COULD NOT ENTER- TAIN IDEA OF EN MASSE MIGRATION OF BIHARIS TO PAKISTAN, BUT WAS WILLING RECEIVE LIMITED NUMBER ON HARDSHIP BASIS SUCH AS SEPARATION OF FAMILIES.

3. WHEN I EXPRESSED SATISFACTION THAT GOP HAD MADE AT LEAST SUFFICIENTLY POSITIVE RESEPNSE TO INDO- BANGLADESH DECLARATION TO KEEP DOOR OPEN FOR NEGOTIATIONS, PARTICULARLY IN CONTEXT OPENING PARAS OF THAT DECLARATION, THE PRESIDENT OBSERVED " WE CHOOSE DELIBERATELY TO OVERLOOK THOSE PARTS OF THE DECLARATION".  
SANDERHOFF

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Subject:** BHUTTO ON APRIL 17  
**TAGS:** PFOR, BG, IN, PK, n/a  
**To:** NEA  
STATE INFO DACCA  
KABUL  
LONDON  
MULTIPLE  
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